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CLAIMS

1. A relay, having: a base (1) which defines a base plane (10); a magnet system arranged on the base (1) and having a coil (35), a core (31) and an armature (37); at least one pair of closing spring contacts (23A', 25A', 23A2, 25A2) and at least one pair of opening spring contacts (23R, 25R), each pair of spring contacts including a passive (23) and an active (25) spring contact, and each spring contact (23, 25) being secured in the base (1), standing perpendicular to the base plane, and bearing at its end remote from the base a contact portion (24, 26); and an actuating slide (40) which is movable parallel to the base plane (10) and which acts on each active spring contact (25), in each case in the vicinity of the contact portion (26),

characterised in that

the slide (40) acts on the active opening spring contacts (25R) at a different spacing as regards the way it is secured in the base (1) from that at which it acts on the active closing spring contacts (25A1, 25A2).

2. A relay according to Claim 1, characterised in that the slide (40) acts on the active opening spring contacts (25R) in each case at a larger spacing as regards the point at which it is secured in the base (1) from that at which it acts on the active closing spring contacts (25A1, 25A2).

3. A relay according to Claim 1 or 2, characterised in that all the active spring contacts (25) are of the same construction.

4. A relay according to one of Claims 1 to 3, characterised in that in the untensioned condition all

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the active spring contacts (25) adopt an open position with respect to their associated passive spring contacts (23), and in that the active opening spring contacts (25R) are switched by the force of a restoring spring (38) and the active closing spring contacts (25A1, 25A2) are switched by the force of the magnet system (35, 31, 37) to their respective closing position.

5. A relay according to one of Claims 1 to 4, characterised in that the magnet system (31, 35, 37) has a U-shaped core (31) with a core limb (32) lying inside the coil and a yoke limb (33) lying outside the coil, with the cross-section of iron within the core limb (32) being increased by an additional flux member (36).